

High Explosives Charges for Insensitive Artillery and Mortar Ammunitions

46th Annual Gun & Missile Systems
Conference and Exhibition
Miami – 29 Aug / 01 Sept 2011

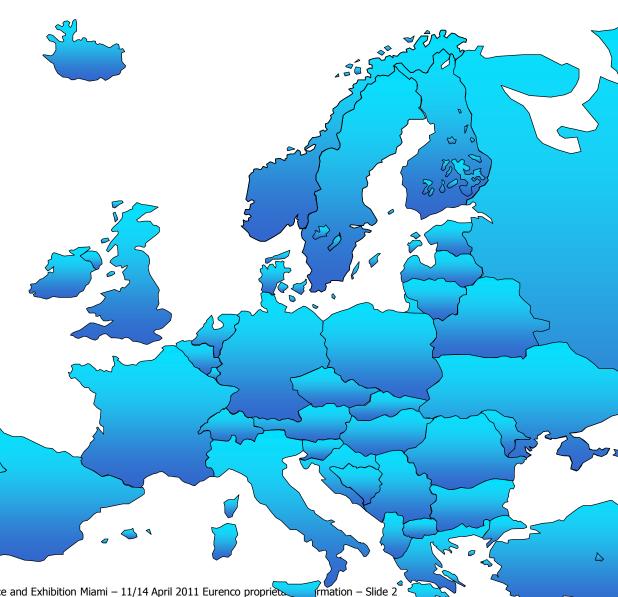
Unique Know-How, Multifaceted Range



CAST PBX in the European Defense and Technological Base (DITB)



In Europe, Cast PBX *
is the Most Used
Explosive to make
Insensitive Munitions.





CAST PBX Material Description



* Cast PBX: Cast Plastic Bonded eXplosive

- Binder = HTPB (synthetic rubber)
- Energetic Filler = RDX, HMX, NTO...







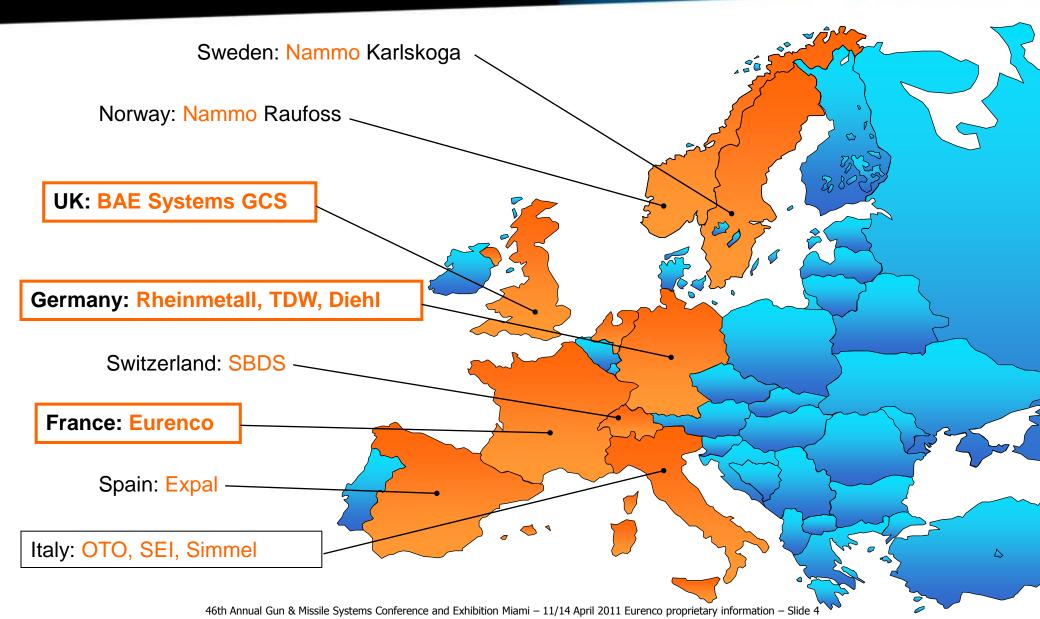






CAST PBX in the European DITB







CAST PBX in European Armed Forces



European Countries using cast PBX in Insensitive 60mm to 155mm Caliber Ammunitions

• UK 81mm, 105mm, 155mm...

• GERMANY 120mm, 155mm

• NETHERLANDS 81mm, 155mm

• FRANCE 76mm, 81mm, 120mm

• ITALY 76mm, 127mm

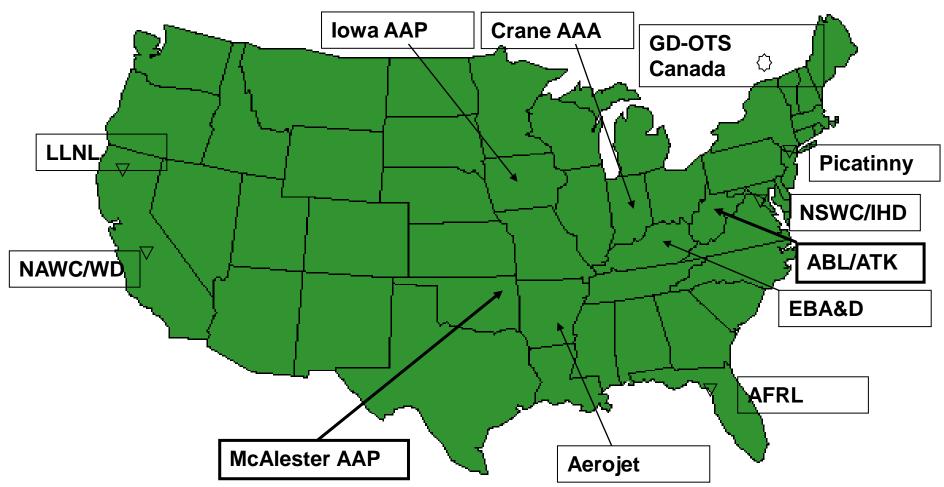
SWITZERLAND 60mm, 120mm



CAST PBX in the US NTIB



Cast PBX in USA: A well established Technological and Industrial Base

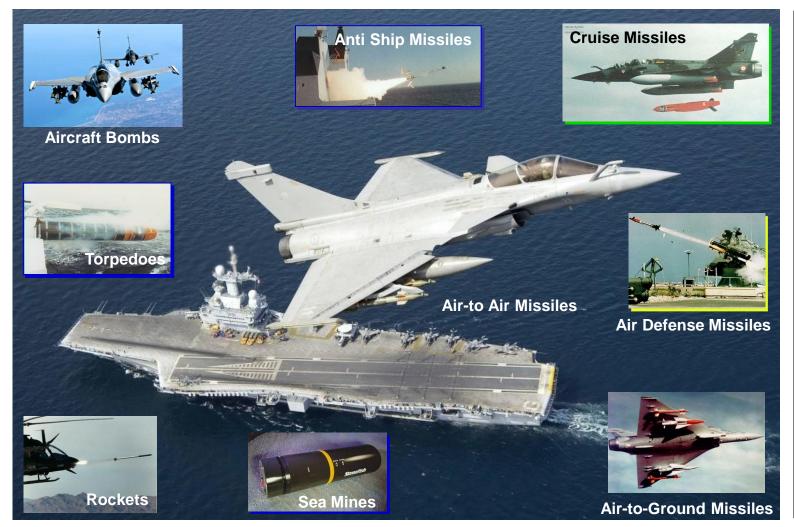




CAST PBX in Weapon Systems



The Most Implemented Insensitive High Explosive











CAST PBX: The Origins



Major Disasters on High Value Combat Platforms led to find a Mature and Effective IM Solution



Aircraft Carriers Accidents



Best Insensitive Explosive for IM Bombs



CAST PBX: Background



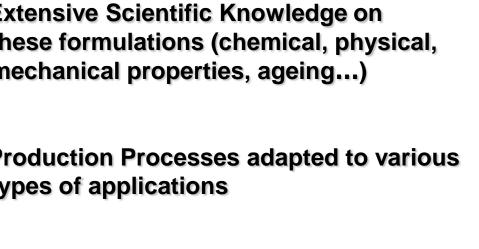


Cast PBX technology is based on a 50 year background shared with Solid Rocket Motor technology.



- Large Catalogue of Qualified Formulations
- Extensive Scientific Knowledge on these formulations (chemical, physical, mechanical properties, ageing...)



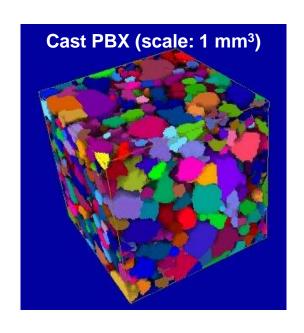


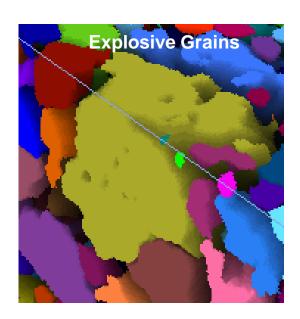


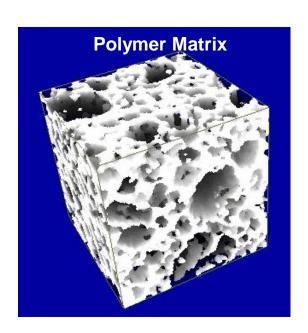
CAST PBX: Advantages for IM



A material with Excellent Intrinsic Properties







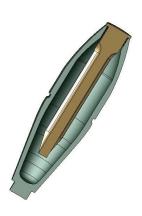
- Structural Reliability (no internal cracks)
- Homogeneity (no micro-voids)
- Thermal Stability
 (no reverse melting)



CAST PBX: Performances and Cost

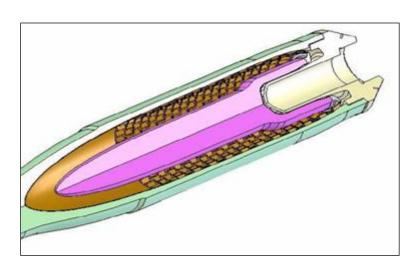








- Affordable product (no high-cost ingredient needed)
- Performances comparable to non-IM explosives (Comp-B, TNT/Al...)
- Flexibility of design



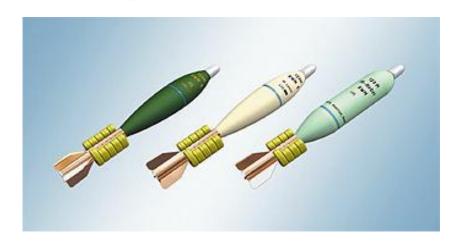


CAST PBX: The Industrial Challenge



How to Produce High Volumes of Cast PBX Shells?











CAST PBX: The Batch Process



Batch Process is well adapted for Production of Explosive Charges for Bombs, Missile Warheads...







- Step 1: **Mixing** (with cross linking agent)
- Step 2: **Casting** (pot life limited)
- Step 3: **Curing** (several days)



CAST PBX: Issues with Batch



Batch Process is Not Optimized for Production of Shells (60mm, 81mm, 105mm, 120mm, 155mm...)



- Casting time is limited (pot life constraint)
- Curing takes days (large oven areas)
- Large mass of explosive in the workshop





CAST PBX: The Solution for Shells



The Solution: The Bi-Component Process

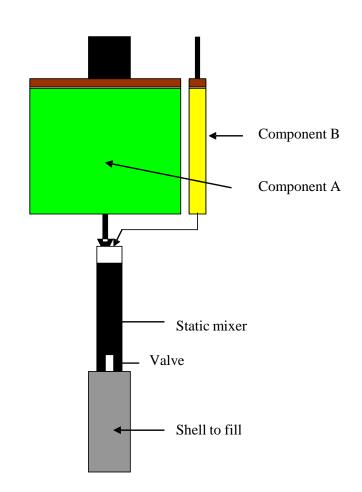
• Two components:

. Component A: All ingredients,

except curing agent

. <u>Component B:</u> Curing agent

 Filling « on demand » through a static mixer



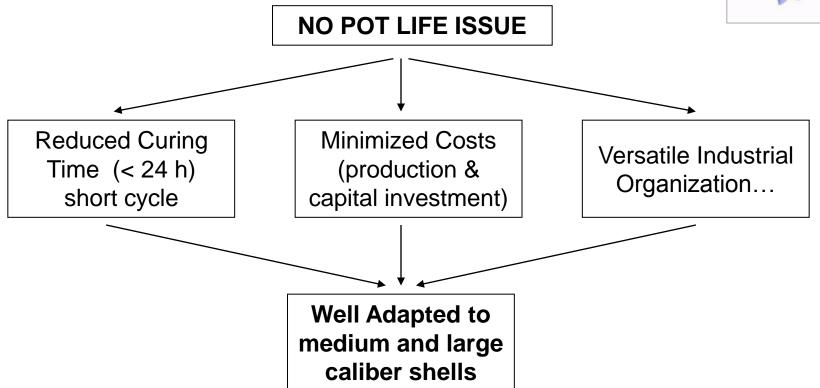


CAST PBX: The Solution for Shells



Advantages of Bi-Component Process:

Static Mixer









Full scale production line commissioned in 2006

"POGS Workshop"

1.3 HD 1,200 m²

Capacity (items/year) with one Filling Station

155 mm: 50,000 120 mm: 100,000





"All-in-One" Workshop (Empty Shells Get In Packed Filled Shells Go Out)









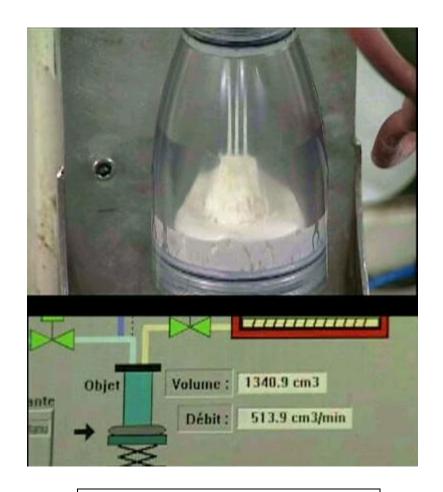
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AUTOMATED HANDLING



AUTOMATED CASTING







LINEAR CURING OVEN



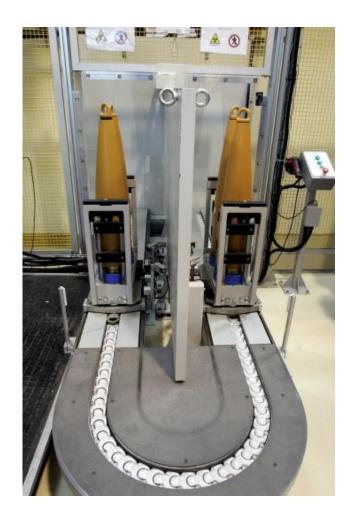








IN-LINE DIGITAL X-RAYS





CAST PBX for Shells



Some Applications



Naval Artillery



76mm n°1 Artillery Qualified, Production 2011 76mm n°2 Artillery Development 127mm (5") Artillery Production 2011









Field Artillery



155mm n°1 155mm n°2 Artillery Artillery Qualified, Production 2011 Production 2006-2007 (Combat Proven)









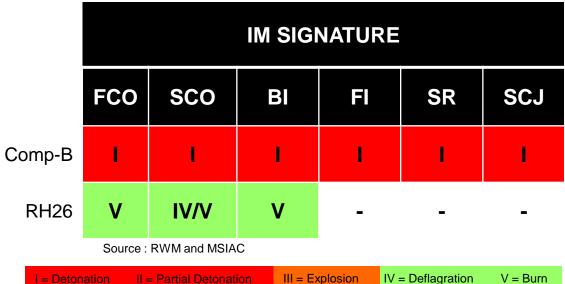
155mm Artillery (RWM RH30-40)







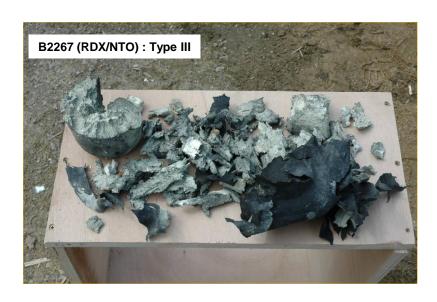






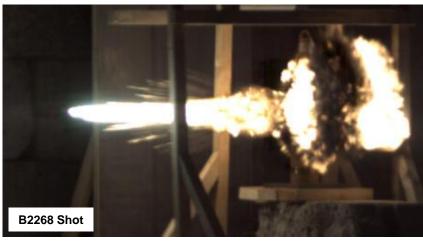
155mm Artillery (New EURENCO Formulations B2268& B2267)











Comp-B B2268 /B2267

	IM SIGNATURE								
	FCO	sco	BI	FI	SR	SCJ			
3	1	1	1	1	1	- 1			
8 7	V*	V*	V *	V *	IV/III*	V/III			

* Prediction; Source: EURENCO



Tank Ammunitions



120mm n°1 Tank HE 120mm n°2 Tank HE 105mm Tank HE Production 2010/2011 Development Development







Mortar Ammunitions



120mm n°1 120mm n°2 120mm n°3 81mm n°1 81mm n°2 Mortar Qualified
Mortar Qualified
Mortar Development

Mortar Development

Mortar Production 2009/2010











Mortars for USA



As a reminder: 120mm HE Mortar Ammunition (M934A2)

- Prime Co. : GD-OTS CANADA

- Customer: US ARMY

- Development: 2001/05 ; TC 2006

- High Blast / Frag (ref. Comp-B)
- Meets IM Requirements
- Licenses for HBU88-B and BC Process







Mortars for USA



120mm HE Mortar Ammunition M934A2 (US ARMY Type Classified with EURENCO HBU88B)









HBU88B

	IM SIGNATURE									
	FCO	sco	ВІ	FI	SR	SCJ				
}	Ш	1	1	1	1	1				
3	IV*	IV*	IV*	IV*	IV-Pass	IV-Pass				

* Fuze/Adapter Thrown >49 ft; Source: US ARMY



CAST PBX for Shells



Conclusion

- Cast PBX is the most used and mature IM explosive technology available
- Cast PBX is affordable and provides same performances as non-IM Explosives
- Bi-Component process is the right economical / technical trade-off for filling large caliber ammunitions with cast PBX.



EURENCO is Member of IMEMG



The Insensitive Munitions European Manufacturers Group





GOING FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

